

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GABORO 00611 151510Z

73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 INT-08 SCI-06 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /071 W

----- 027901

R 151155Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO USDOC WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 5376

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

UNCLAS GABORONE 0611

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP EMIN BC

SUBJ: MINING AND MINING EQUIPMENT TRADE MISSION ACTIVITIES
IN BOTSWANA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: TRADE MISSION CONSIDERED HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL BY ALL MISSION MEMBERS, GOB OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF PRIVATE INDUSTRY. VISIT PROVIDED FIRSTHAND OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS, NONE OF WHOM HAD VISITED BOTSWANA PREVIOUSLY, TO ACQUAINT THEMSELVES WITH THE COUNTRY'S RAPIDLY EXPANDING ECONOMY AND MINING INDUSTRY. GOB OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY THOSE FROM MINISTRY OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL PROSPECTING, MINING AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES GREATLY APPRECIATED OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH MEMBERS AND LEARN ABOUT THE AMERICAN COMPANIES REPRESENTED. EMBASSY SATISFIED MISSION MEMBERS MADE IMPORTANT CONTACTS WHICH WILL LEAD TO SALES OVER MEDIUM AND LONG TERM - END SUMMARY.

2. ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS:

MAY 7 - BRIEFING ON BOTSWANA'S DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS BY DCM BRADFORD BISHOP, JR., AND EVENING RECEPTION HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GABORO 00611 151510Z

BOLEN. RECEPTION WAS ATTENDED BY MINISTER FOR WORKS AND

COMMUNICATIONS, J.G. HASKINS, MINISTER FOR MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS, M.K. SEGOKGO, COMMISSIONER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, A.G. MAJOR, ACTING MINING COMMISSIONER, K.G. DELL, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, F.G. MOGAE, MR. J. SHANKLIN OF MCALPINE CO., LONDON, THE SENIOR OFFICIALS OF ANGLO AMERICAN, DEBEERS, BAMANGWATO CONCESSIONS LTD., AND OTHER SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTSWANA MINING AND QUARRYING ENTERPRISES.

MAY 8 - MORNING SESSION WELL ATTENDED. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED PERMANENT SECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS, ALL SENIGG OFFICIALS FROM MINISTRY MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS AND MINING DEPT., TECHNICAL PERSONNEL FROM BAMANGWATO CONCESSIONS' SELEBI-PIKWE MINE AND J. VENTER, SECRETARY OF U.S. STEEL INTERNATIONAL WHO FLEW IN FROM JOHANNESBURG. AMBASSADOR BOLEN WELCOMED GROUP AND SAID QTE THIS TRADE MISSION IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO BOTSWANA IN VIEW OF THE COUNTRY'S RICH MINERAL RESOURCE BASE, RAPID RATE OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND DETERMINATION TO USE THE BEST TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT FOR ITS MINERALS DEVELOPMENT UNQTE. THE AMBASSADOR URGED THE AUDIENCE AND TRADE MISSION MEMBERS TO QTE EFFECT MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS AND ESTABLISH A LONG-LASTING BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP UNQTE. MR. B.GAOLATHE, PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS, SPOKE OF GOB'S DETERMINATION DEVELOP THE COUNTRY'S MINERAL RESOURCES RAPIDLY IN ORDER INSURE IMPROVEMENT STANDARD OF LIVING OF ALL BATSWANA. MR. K.G. DELL, ACTING MINING COMMISSIONER, SPOKE ON THE GENERAL FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPT. OF MINES AND SUMMARIZED GOVERNMENT POLICY RELATING TO MINING SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE, INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION CONTROL, AND USE OF EXPLOSIVES. THE RESIDENT DIRECTOR FOR ANGLO AMERICAN AND DEBEERS BOTSWANA, MR. M. MCCRUM, DESCRIBED ACTIVITIES OF THOSE TWO COMPANIES. HE NOTED THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE INCREASED DIAMOND PRODUCTION AT ORAPA (CURRENTLY THREE MILLION CARATS ANNUALLY) AND PLANS TO OPEN A NEW DIAMOND MINE NEAR ORAPA, DEBEERS CONTINUES TO PROSPECT FOR OTHER DIAMOND DEPOSITS. MR. VCCRUM ALSO COMMENTED ON ANGLO AMERICAN'S COAL MINE AT MORUPULE AND THE ROLE ANGLO PLAYS IN THE SELEBI-PIKWE PROJECT. MR. B. COLLINSON, GENERAL MANAGER OF BAMANGWATO CONCESSIONS'S (BCL) SELEBI-PIKWE COPPER AND NICKEL MINE ADDRESSED THE GROUP ON BCL OPERATION AT PIKWE. MR. COLLONSON

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GABORO 00611 151510Z

SAID THAT BCL EXPECTS THE SELEBI-PIKWE PROJECT TO ATTAIN FULL PRODUCTION WITHIN A YEAR. HE ADDED THAT A SUBSIDIARY OF BOTSWANA RST HOPES BEGIN EXPLOITATION SHORTLY OF PROVEN RESERVES OF SODA ASH AND SALT IN THE MAKGADIKGADI PANS AREA.

MEMBERS OF THE TRADE MISSION THEN PRESENTED THEIR COMPANIES AND PRODUCTS TO THE AUDIENCE. AFTERNOON WAS USED FOR INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS.

MAY 9 - AT MORNING SESSION EIGHT COMPANIES EACH MADE A THIRTY MINUTE PRESENTATION TO AUDIENCE WHICH INCLUDED INGERSOLL RAND'S SOUTH AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVES, ACTING GOB MINING COMMISSIONER AND MINING ENGINEERS, BAMANGWATO CONCESSIONS MINING ENGINEER AND MINE SUPERVISOR, OFFICIALS FROM MINISTRY FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, MINISTRY COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MINISTRY WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTRY MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS. ANGLO AMERICAN L.J. WHYLE CO., (QUARRYING) AND MINESTONE CO. (CONSTRUCTION) ALSO REPRESENTED. THE AFTERNOON WAS AGAIN SET ASIDE FOR INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS.

MAY 10 - THREE MEMBERS OF MISSION (EARNSHAW, TAYLOR AND WENBERG) FLEW TO SELEBI/PIKWE FOR TOUR OF BAMANGWATO CONCESSIONS LTD. COPPER-NICKEL MINE.

3. GROUP UNANIMOUS IN THEIR PRAISE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF BOTSWANA SEGMENT OF TRADE MISSION AND ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION THEY RECEIVED FROM GOB OFFICIALS AND MINING/CONSTRUCTION SPEDITS.# THEY WERE PLEASED WITH USEFUL BRIEFINGS AND THOUGHT THE IDEA OF KEEPING GROUP TOGETHER FOR BRIEFINGS AND THEN FOR COMPANY PRESENTATIONS WAS USEFUL.

4. MR. MAYNARD JOHNSON, ALLIS-CHALMERS, STATED QTE THE PROGRAM WAS WELL ORGANIZED AND SCHEDULED. ALL MEMBEERS WERE HIGHLY SATISFIED WITH THEIR INTRODUCTION TO BOTSWANA AND WITH THE PERSONAL CONTACTS THEY MADE HERE UNQTE.

5. MR. HENK SONIUS, LONGYEAR, STATED QTE I AM VERY IMPRESSED BY THE POSSIBILITIES FOR SALES IN BOTSWANA. ANOTHER IMPRESSIVE FEATURE OF THE COUNTRY IS THE WELCOME WE RECEIVED FROM OFFICIALS BOTH IN GOVERNMENT AND IN THE MINING INDUSTRY UNQTE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 GABORO 00611 151510Z

YM MR. RICHARD WENBERG, EIMCO, SAID QTE THE CONTACTS WE ESTABLISHED HERE WILL BE VERY USEFUL IN COMPETING FOR THE SIZEABLE ORDERS WHICH WILL COME FROM BOTSWANA'S MINING INDUSTRY IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS UNQTE.

7. A FEW OF THE USEFUL CONTACTS AND LEADS ON SALES DEVELOPED BY THE MEMBERS WERE: 1) GRANT RISCH, INGERSOLL RAND, WHO SAID HE HAD DEVELOPED LEADS ON DRILLING EQUIPMENT. RISCH ALSO TALKED TO BOTSWANA EARTHMOVING CO. ABOUT THE COMPANIES THEY REPRESENT AND DISCUSSED INGERSOLL RAND EQUIPMENT NOW AT SELEBI-PIKWE AND POSSIBLE FUTURE SALES THERE. 2) MAYNARD JOHNSON, ALLIS-CHALMERS, TALKED TO BOTSWANA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PERSONNEL ABOUT THEIR PROPOSED CEMENT FACTORY AND THE POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF ALLIS-CHALMERS EQUIPMENT. 3) HENK SONIUS, LONGYEAR, DISCUSSED DIAMOND-CORE DRILLING TOOLS WITH OFFICIALS FROM GOB GEOLOGICAL

SURVEY, U.S. STEEL, AND MCALPINE COMPANY. 4) IRA HUFF, DISCUSSED THE CAPABILITIES OF F.C. TORKELSON CO. WITH ANGLO AND BCL OFFICIALS AND WITH THE PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS AND GOB MINING ENGINEERS.

8. GOB COMMERCIAL OFFICER K. BAREKI TOOK ADVANTAGE MISSION PRESENCE TO EXPLAIN INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND INCENTIVES TO SEVERAL MEMBERS. DON TAYLOR OF KOEHRING, WITH MANUFACTURING FACILITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA, EXPRESSED DEFINITE INTEREST ESTABLISHING MANUFACTURING SUBSIDIARY IN BOTSWANA.

9. COMMENT: EMBASSY IMPRESSED HIGH LEVEL CALIBER AND COMPETENCE OF MISSION AND EXCELLENT PARTICIPATION OF SENIOR GOB OFFICIALS. USEFUL CONTACTS WERE ALSO ESTABLISHED WITH LOCAL ANGLO AMERICAN, DEBEERS, US STEEL, BCL AND MCALPINE REPRESENTATISS AS WELL AS CONSTRUCTION AGENTS. EMBASSY CONDIDENT NEW ASSOCIATIONS WILL LEAD TO FUTURE SALES. GOB WAS IMPRESSED BY WILLINGNESS OF MEMBERS TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AND PROVIDE FRESH PERSPECTIVES ON MINING, CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL ARTS.
BISHOP

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINING INDUSTRY, EXPLOITATION (NATURAL RESOURCES), INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, TRADE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GABORO00611
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740120-0156
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740547/aaaabpgt.tel
Line Count: 190
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 OCT 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <06 JAN 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINING AND MINING EQUIPMENT TRADE MISSION ACTIVITIES IN BOTSWANA
TAGS: BEXP, EMIN, BC
To: COM STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005